

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating an infection or ischemic wound in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering a
5 therapeutically effective amount of relaxin.

2. The method of treatment of Claim 1 comprising the administration of relaxin in an amount sufficient to maintain a serum concentration of at least about 1 ng/ml.

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3. The method of treatment of Claim 1 comprising the administration of recombinant human relaxin (H2).

4. The method of treatment of Claim 2 comprising the
15 administration of recombinant human relaxin (H2).

5. The method of treatment of Claim 3 wherein said relaxin is administered parenterally.

20 6. The method of treatment of Claim 5 wherein said relaxin is administered by subcutaneous injection.

7. The method of treatment of Claim 3 wherein said relaxin is administered by inhalation to the patient's
25 respiratory tract.

8. The method of treatment of Claim 3 wherein said infection or ischemic wound is one where the injury is the result from lack of oxygen due to poor circulation.

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9. The method of treatment of Claim 8 wherein said lack of oxygen due to poor circulation is the result of a disease.

10. The method of treatment of Claim 9 wherein the disease
35 is scleroderma or diabetes.

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11. The method of treatment of Claim 1 wherein the wound is an ischemic ulcer.

12. A method for promoting angiogenesis in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of relaxin.

13. The method of Claim 12 comprising the administration of relaxin in an amount sufficient to maintain a serum concentration of at least about 1 ng/ml.

14. The method of Claim 12 comprising the administration of recombinant human relaxin (H2).

15 15. The method of Claim 13 comprising the administration of recombinant human relaxin (H2).

16. The method of Claim 14 wherein said relaxin is administered parenterally.

20 17. The method of Claim 16 wherein said relaxin is administered by subcutaneous injection.

18. The method of Claim 14 wherein said relaxin is administered by inhalation to the patient's respiratory tract.

19. A method of using relaxin for the manufacture of a medicant for the treatment of an infection or ischemic wound.

30 20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the relaxin is recombinant human relaxin (H2).

21. A method of using relaxin for the manufacture of a medicant for the promotion of angiogenesis.

35 22. The method of Claim 21 wherein the relaxin is recombinant human relaxin (H2).